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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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[redacted]

1. Future Military Operations. A military conference is stated to have been held in the Thai Nguyen area (105-50, 21-36) on [redacted] 1/ At this conference, General Vo Nguyen Giap, Minister of Defense, outlined the plans for future military operations. 25X1A

2. Five brigades (Dai Doan) had been constituted and would attack French military posts and communications in September and October 1950. They would operate as follows:

Brigade No. 35, under General Ngo Huy Tan on the northern frontier of Viet Nam.

Brigade No. 304, under General Hoang Manh Thao 2/, Intersector III and and northern Intersector IV.

Brigade No. 306, under General Hoang Sam 3/, Intersector IV in northern Annam.

Brigade No. 308, under General Vuong Thua Vu, northeastern frontier. 4/

Brigade No. 239, under General Vu Trong Tran (or Tan) 5/, Laos.

These attacks would be of a spectacular nature, in order to help maintain the morale of the population; but they would not, unless the French were to prove unexpectedly weak, develop into the general counteroffensive.

3. General Vo Nguyen Giap stated that he did not expect to throw out the French without Chinese aid; and that there were many improvements in communications to be made before Chinese troops could be brought in quickly and used effectively.

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4. He named two targets to be attained by the end of 1950:

a) Battalion 89 would open a front to be known as "Le Hong Phong," which would base itself upon Yen Bay (104-52, 21-44) and have for objective the clearing of the Red River Valley down to Son Tay. The report does not mention plans for Lao Kay.

b) Open a front "Le Loi" in order to clear and hold Route Coloniale No. 6, in particular at Hoa Binh (105-19, 20-50).

5. Strategic Communications. At this meeting, the Chinese Communist High Command had informed Ho Chi Minh that in order to carry out a large-scale invasion, they would require to have available for heavy traffic the Routes Coloniales Nos. 1, 4, 5, and 6.

Route Coloniale No. 1 runs from the Port de Chine (106-43, 21-56) to Hanoi and thence due south.

Route Coloniale No. 4 runs from Bao Lac (105-39, 22-57) to Cao Bang (106-15, 22-40) and thence roughly parallel to the northeastern frontier, to the sea.

Route Coloniale No. 5 runs from Haiphong to Hanoi.

Route Coloniale No. 6 runs from Hanoi and Hoa Binh, joining roads to Son La (103-54, 21-21), Sam Neua (Laos) and northern Annam.

6. Present Communications. The roads from Thai Nguyen to Tuyen Quang (105-13, 21-49) and Cho Chu (105-38, 21-54) have been repaired sufficiently to carry medium traffic. A large number of special carts has been constructed for the transport of iron ore in these regions. Each cart is drawn by four bullocks.

7. The greater proportion of small ammunition received from Communist China is carried by individuals on foot, 30 kilos at a time, from Bac Kan to Thai Nguyen and Tuyen Quang.

25X1X 8. [redacted] reports having seen, in August, chains of women carrying baskets of rice in the opposite direction, from the rice-growing areas north of Vinh Yen (105-35, 21-17) and Bac Ninh (106-04, 21-12) to Thai Nguyen and Bac Kan.

9. A light railway is being constructed from Thai Nguyen to Tan Kien. Tan Kien is unidentified, but is presumed to be a mining locality in the region. This railway will be finished in September 1950.

10. Chinese Reinforcements. A force of 8,000 Chinese Communist troops is now settled around Yen Bay; and 8,000 more are shortly expected in the area immediately to the north of Vinh Yen.

11. Emissary to China. One Tran Dang Minh[6/], stated to be Communist delegate of the Vietnamese workers, is to be sent to China shortly to ask for 2,000 military and technical experts and several Chinese army divisions to be sent to north Tonkin.

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12. Ministry of the Interior. The Director of the Espionage Branch of the Viet Minh Security Service, Le Gian[7/], is to be appointed Minister of the Interior, as the present Minister, Phan Ke Toai, being a non-Communist, has left much to be desired in the exercise of his functions. Le Gian's place in the Security Service will be taken by Hoang My[7/].

13. Pro-Chinese Communist Celebrations. Celebrations were held at Thai Nguyen on 1 August 1950 to celebrate the twenty-third anniversary of the Chinese People's Army. The flags of the Soviet Union, Communist China, and North Korea were displayed; and speeches were made in public by Ho Chi Minh and Vo Nguyen Giap.

14. A 122 mm gun, "a present from Communist China," was on display during the celebrations. An observer states that the name on the carriage was, as far as he can recollect, "Kesska."

25X1X 1/ [redacted] Comment. It will be noted that the information in paragraph 1 is similar to that given in [redacted]. But [redacted] was definite that similar decisions had been made at both the Than Hoa and the Thai Nguyen conferences. 25X1X 25X1A

25X1A 2/ [redacted] Comment. [redacted], also reports that Hoang Minh Thao heads the 304 Brigade. [redacted] reports that Hoang Minh Tao is chief of Intersector IV. 25X1A 25X1A

25X1A 3/ [redacted] Comment. [redacted] lists Hoang Sam as chief of Intersector III. 25X1A

4/ See [redacted] 25X1A

5/ See [redacted]

25X1A 6/ [redacted] Comment. According to a Viet Nam News Agency broadcast of 21 January 1950, Tran Dang Minh was appointed to the Inspection Committee of the Viet Nam Federation of Labor at the first National Conference of Viet Nam Trade Unions.

25X1A 7/ [redacted] Comment. According to [redacted], Hoang My is Director of National Security and Police in the Viet Minh Security Service. 25X1A

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